

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S. 444**

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TO:	The Honorable Glenn McConnell, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee		
FROM:	Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	Rodney Grizzle and Harry Bell		
DATE:	March 26, 2007	SBD:	2007227

AUTHOR:	Senator Jackson	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	17-28-10
SUBJECT:	Innocence Inquiry Commission		

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:
A Cost to the General Fund (See Below)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:
\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

BILL SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 444 amends the Code of Law of South Carolina, 1976, by adding Chapter 28, Title 17 which creates the "South Carolina Innocence Inquiry Commission". The Commission's purpose is to investigate and determine the credibility of claims of factual innocence of a conviction.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

The Judicial Department estimates the impact on the General Fund of the State at approximately \$124,540 annually not including per diem, subsistence and mileage. This cost is comprised of \$118,540 in salaries and fringe benefits for the Director and Administrative Assistance (2.00 FTE's) and \$6,000 in other operating expenses. The Department also indicates there will be a cost associated with the per diem and travel reimbursement, for the eight (8) commission members, at the rate of \$190 per member, per day. Assuming the Commission meets four times a year the total annual cost for per diem, subsistence and mileage can be estimated at \$6,080. Non-recurring start-up cost for two employees is estimated at \$7,000. Therefore, first year costs are estimated at \$137,620 while recurring costs thereafter are estimated at \$130,620.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

Enactment would have little or no impact on local government expenditures.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:



Harry Bell
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget